

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Me so ? Why is thy daring and thy presumption
so great
against Me ? For thy mundane court is plundering
My celestial
Court. Thou in thy pride dost take My sheep from
Me ; thou
dost unlawfully seize upon the goods of the Church,
which are
Mine own, and the goods of the subjects of the
Church, to give
them to thy temporal friends. Thou dost rob My
poor for the
sake of thy rich. Too great is thy audacity and
presumption.
What have I done to thee, Gregory ? I patiently
permitted thee
to ascend to the Supreme Pontificate, and foretold to
thee My
will, and promised thee a great reward. How hast
thou repaid
Me for all My benefits ? Why dost thou make reign
in thy
court such great pride, insatiable cupidity, and the
lust that I
hate, and likewise the most horrible simony ?
Moreover, thou
dost rob Me of innumerable souls ; for almost all who
come to
thy court dost thou cast into the hell of fire, in that
thou dost not
attend to the things that pertain to My Court, albeit
thou art the
prelate and pastor of My sheep. The fault is thine,
because
thou dost not wisely consider what is to be done for
their spiritual
salvation, and what to be corrected. And albeit I
could with
justice condemn thee for these things, yet do I still
admonish
thee, for the salvation of thy soul, that thou come to
Rome, to thy
seat, as quickly as thou canst. Come, then, and do
not delay.
Come not with thy wonted pride and mundane pomp,
but with
humility and ardent charity ; and, after thou art
thus come,

extirpate and root out all the vices from thy court.
Put far
from thee the counsels of thy carnal and worldly
friends, and
humbly follow the counsels of My spiritual friends.
Rise up
manfully, put on thy strength, and begin to renovate
My Church,
which I acquired with My own blood ; let it be
brought back in
spirit to its primitive holy state, for now it is a house
of shame
that is venerated rather than Holy Mother Church.
But, if thou
dost not obey My will, I will cast thee down from the
Court of
Heaven, and all the devils of hell shall divide thy soul,
and for
benediction thou shalt be filled with eternal
malediction. If thou
dost obey Me in this way, I will receive thee like a
tender Father ;
I will be merciful to thee, and will bless thee, and will
robe and